March 13, 1975

work from within a viable organization. Afterall the Bar, through the Supreme court, - we're talking about the power and the authority of the Supreme Court under Article V of the Constitution of Netraska which is the judicial article, the Nebraska Supreme Court, under that article, has inherent power and responsibility for authority over the admission, removal, qualifications, discipline, and the conduct of all lawyers. This goes to what Senator Chambers refers to as lawyering. Criticisms and complaints can be filed, and they are filed. I can assure you they are dealt with. When they are dealt with on the level of the Supreme Court it becomes public, and the Supreme Court renders a decision which is public to all the media. This is not so with some of the other professions, I might add. It it true, as far as openness, at that stage. This is in the essence of fairness that these particular matters are not brought to the attention of the public until a charge is made. This is in the essence of being fair. I might also add that those of us who are members of the Bar find ourselves in a rather bad position here in that we must use the very ethics that Senator Chambers decries in not commenting upon the Cook case at this time because the Cook case has not gone to the Supreme Court for a decision. We are in the position where we should not, I'll say that, should not ethically comment on this case until the Supreme Court has ruled. All that had been done to date is the investigation has been made and a judge has made a recommendation. The court has still not ruled in that case. I oppose . . . I am in favor of Senator Warner's motion to kill this bill for another reason. That is when there is constant reference to the amount of money that lawyers must pay, this is true. I'm sure there's a lot of griping in any profession, in any business, in any trade or organization when you have to pay dues. Let's look at what these dues, that we pay as members of the Bar and we pay them after it's put to a vote. We do get to voce on these changes before they are placed before the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court rules whether or not we have these fee increases. What's done with this money? Only about \$70,000 or there abouts goes to salary, all the rest of the money goes to the other things that the Bar does. Most of it goes, and I stress this, most of it goes to continuing education. We talked about the fact that lawyers should continually bring themselves up-to-date. They have to because of this very Legislature. Every year lawyers meet here in Lincoln after the session of the Legislature for a continuing education session on the laws passed. Believe me that means two days of a lot of work and a lot of effort. A fine book comes out every year by the Bar Association . . . Junior Bar Association to this effect to help lawyers, to help their clients, to help all of us understand what we the Legislature have done. I think you have to admit we've done plenty every year by the time we get finished. Another thing the Bar has done, which I think you should consider which is in the positive sense and I say I have mixed feelings about everything the Bar has done, one of the positive things in the last few years, in the last year or so, has been the establishment of a client security fund. This is done by the money that we have voted for, that the Supreme Court has voted to put upon us to assure the public that if there is any unprofessional conduct by members of the profession that they will have recourse that there is a fund which will help them. This is new. Senator Chambers